REMARKS

Claims 1, 4-7, and 16-33 are pending in the present application. Claims 2, 3, and 8-15 have been cancelled by amendment.

In the office action mailed September 17, 2004 (the "Office Action"), claims 16-33 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 40-53 of U.S. Patent No. 6,714,460 to LaBerge (the "LaBerge patent"). Claims 1, 2, 4-7, and 9-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,671,212 to Macri et al. (the Macri patent"). Claims 3 and 8 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant would like to point out that the Examiner's statement on page 3 of the Office Action regarding the rejection of claims 16-33 is inaccurate. The Examiner states that "[t]he elements of claims 16-33 of the instant application are anticipated by the elements of claims 40-53 of [the Laberge patent]." This statement cannot be accurate since the rejection made by the Examiner is an obviousness-type double patenting rejection. By definition, the Laberge patent cannot *anticipate* claims 16-33 under an obviousness-type double patenting rejection. Withdrawal of the aforementioned statement by the Examiner is requested.

With respect to the rejection of claims 16-33 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting, a timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 1.321(c) has been provided with this amendment. Consequently, the rejection of claims 16-33 for obviousness-type double patenting over the Laberge patent should be withdrawn.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 3 and claim 5 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 8. Therefore, claims 1 and 5 are in condition for allowance. Claim 4, which depends from claim 1, and claims 6 and 7, which depend from claim 5, are similarly allowable based on their dependency from a respective allowable base claim. Therefore, the rejection of claims 1 and 4-7 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) should be withdrawn. The amendments made to claims 1 and 5 have been made to expedite the allowance of allowable subject matter. The amendments, however, should not be interpreted as reflecting Applicant's belief that the subject matter of the unamended claims is unpatentable. Moreover, Applicant has not addressed the merits of the Examiner's rejection of the claims, or

whether the Examiner's characterizations of the cited references are accurate. Therefore, the presumption that Applicant has tacitly acknowledged the merit of the rejections or that the references cited by the Examiner are relevant to the patentability of the present invention should not be made.

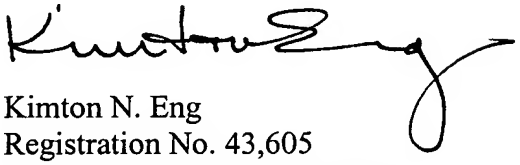
Claims 9-15 have been cancelled by amendment, as previously mentioned, and consequently, the Examiner's rejection of claims 9-15 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) is now moot.

At page 5 of the Office Action, the Examiner states that claims 3, 8, and 16-33 are allowable because the prior art does not teach or suggest a particular element or elements recited in each of the claims, namely, "each claim recites at least an additional feature such as 'wherein the data bus includes X data signals, X being an integer multiple of 2N, and wherein a plurality of inverted next read data words are simultaneously applied on the data bus, each inverted next data word having an associated data bus inversion signal applied on an associated data masking pin' (claims 3 and 8), etc. which none of the prior art alone or in combination teaches." While applicant agrees with the Examiner's indication that the prior art does not teach or disclose the particular elements cited by the Examiner, Applicant would like to point out that each claim includes a *combination* of elements and it is the recited *combination*, which includes the elements cited by the Examiner, that is not disclosed nor suggested by the prior art. While the combinations of elements recited in the allowed claims are allowable, the Applicant would like to further point out that some or all of these individual elements may be broadened such that the resulting combination is still patentable. Thus, Applicant may elect to pursue such claims, or to pursue claims directed to other aspects of the present invention, through a continuation or reissue application, or through a reexamination proceeding.

All of the claims pending in the present application are in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and a timely Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP



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